

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BONN 05056 01 OF 02 221713Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 OMB-01 CU-02
/081 W

-----221814Z 041531 /46

P R 221659Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6703
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USBERLIN
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
AMCONSUL BREMEN
AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
AMCONSUL HAMBURG
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMCONSUL STUTTGART

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 05056

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, GW
SUBJECT: JUSO CONGRESS GIVES SPD NO CAUSE FOR JOY

BEGIN SUMMARY: THE ANNUAL JUSO CONGRESS CREATED SERIOUS
PROBLEMS FOR BOTH THE JUSO'S AND THE SPD. IT ELECTED
A RADICAL SOCIALIST BOARD PLEDGED TO CHALLENGE
SPD CONTROLS OVER THE YOUTH ORGANIZATION, TO SEEK A
MARXIST RESTRUCTURING OF WEST GERMAN SOCIETY, AND TO
PURSUE LOCAL ALLIANCES WITH COMMUNISTS. THE CONGRESS
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BONN 05056 01 OF 02 221713Z

SPLIT BADLY ON SEVERAL ISSUES, AND RANK-AND-FILE LOYALTY
TO THE NEW BOARD HAS NOT BEEN TESTED. HOWEVER, IT IS
CLEAR THAT THE SPD LEADERSHIP FACES A MAJOR JUSO
CHALLENGE ON BASIC PRINCIPLES AND MUST SEEK A NEW
MODUS VIVENDI WITH ITS ALWAYS OBSTREPEROUS, BUT NOW
MORE RADICALIZED YOUTH WING. END SUMMARY.

1. THE OUTCOME OF THE YOUNG SOCIALIST (JUSO) CONFERENCE IN HAMBURG ON MARCH 18-20 SPELLS TROUBLE FOR THE SPD AND CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT. CONTRARY TO GENERAL EXPECTATION AND TO THE CLEAR PREFERENCE OF SPD LEADERS, THE JUSO'S IN HAMBURG REPUDIATED THE REFORM COURSE OF HEIDEMARIE WIECZOREK-ZEUL (WHO, AT 35, COULD NOT RUN AGAIN) AND ELECTED A NEW BOARD LED BY KLAUS-UWE BENNETER (30), A BERLIN ATTORNEY FROM THE STAMOKAP ("STATE MONOPOLY CAPITALISM") FACTION WHICH CALLS FOR A MARXIST REORGANIZATION OF SOCIETY AND WHICH STRONGLY OPPOSES EFFORTS BY THE PARENT-SPD TO HOLD THE JUSO'S IN LINE.

2. IN THE NEW BOARD, BENNETER WILL HAVE SUPPORT FROM TRAUTE MUELLER, AND TO A LESSER DEGREE FROM TWO ANTI-REVISIONISTS: WOLFGANG JUETTNER AND MICHAEL PAPE. OTTMAR SCHREINER (THE INITIAL FAVORITE WHOM BENNETER DEFEATED ON THE SECOND BALLOT BY 149-145), MICHAEL MUELLER, AND ARMIN KLEIST REPRESENT THE REFORM WING OF THE BOARD.

3. SIGNIFICANTLY, TWO LABOR MEMBERS OF THE OLD BOARD, BERNHARD WURL AND GERD ANDRES, DECLINED TO RUN AGAIN, REPORTEDLY BECAUSE THEY DID NOT WANT TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH BENNETER'S POLICIES. THEIR DEPARTURE IS SIGNIFICANT BECAUSE JUSO RANKS HAVE ONLY A SMATTERING OF BLUE-COLLAR MEMBERS. BENNETER'S PRO-WORKING CLASS RHETORIC HAS SO FAR HAD NO GREAT APPEAL FOR YOUNG GERMAN WORKERS, AND WE SEE NO EVIDENCE THAT THIS SITUATION WILL CHANGE.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BONN 05056 01 OF 02 221713Z

4. IN HIS VICTORY STATEMENT, BENNETER CALLED FOR A CLOSING OF THE RANKS AND PLEDGED TO CARRY OUT THE MANDATE FOR HIS "NEW MAJORITY." HE WILL HAVE PROBLEMS ON BOTH COUNTS. WITH RESPECT TO A CLOSING OF THE RANKS, WE NOTE THAT ALMOST HALF THE JUSO DELEGATES REJECTED BENNETER. IT IS BY NO MEANS CLEAR THAT THEY -- AND THEIR RANK-AND-FILE -- WILL SUPPORT HIM IF HE EMBARKS ON A RADICAL COURSE. MOREOVER, THE LOYALTY OF THE ANTI-REVISIONISTS IN THE "NEW MAJORITY" REMAINS TO BE TESTED. THEY ORIGINALLY WANTED JUETTNER AS CHAIRMAN; THEY ONLY BACKED BENNETER AS THE LESSER EVIL AGAINST SCHREINER.

5. HOW BENNETER MOVES TO IMPLEMENT HIS MANDATE WILL ALSO RAISE BASIC PROBLEMS FOR THE SPD LEADERSHIP. IN THE NEAR TERM, TWO AREAS OF CONFLICT ARE CERTAIN:

A. BENNETER WILL RESIST, EVEN MORE THAN HIS PREDECESSORS, SPD ATTEMPTS TO RESTRAIN THE MORE EXTREME JUSO

POSITIONS, PROPAGANDA AND ACTIONS. RESENTMENT AGAINST
WHAT THEY SEE AS A PARTY MUZZLE RUNS DEEP IN JUSO
RANKS, AND BENNETER CAN COUNT ON BROAD SUPPORT.

B. AN EVEN MORE DIVISIVE ISSUE BETWEEN THE PARTY
AND THE YOUTH GROUP IS THE ISSUE OF COOPERATION WITH
GERMAN COMMUNISTS. THIS IS AN ISSUE THAT SPD LEADERS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BONN 05056 02 OF 02 221718Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 OMB-01 CU-02

/081 W

-----221814Z 041598 /43

P R 221659Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6704

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USBERLIN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMCONSUL STUTTGART

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 05056

REGARD AS POLITICAL DYNAMITE, YET BENNETER HAS PLEDGED
TO CARRY OUT TACTICAL COOPERATION WITH COMMUNISTS ON
A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS. IN HAMBURG, BENNETER PERSUADED
THE JUSO MAJORITY, AFTER A LONG AND STORMY DEBATE, TO

ENTER "ACTION ALLIANCES" WITH COMMUNISTS IN PURSUIT OF COMMON GOALS (E.G., DISARMAMENT), ON THE CONDITION THAT THE JUSO'S HAVE A PRIOR SAY IN DETERMINING STRATEGY. MANY JUSO'S HAD -- AND STILL HAVE -- DOUBTS ABOUT THIS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BONN 05056 02 OF 02 221718Z

COURSE WHICH FLIES IN THE FACE OF SPD POLICY THAT SOCIAL DEMOCRATS SHALL NOT MAKE COMMON CAUSE WITH COMMUNISTS.

6. SPD BUSINESS MANAGER EGON BAHR AND TREASURER WILHELM DROESCHER UNDERScoreD THIS POLICY IN HAMBURG. BAHR SAID THAT THERE CAN BE "NO IDEOLOGICAL COEXISTENCE" WITH COMMUNISTS. SPEAKING AFTER BENNETER'S ELECTION, HE FORESAW "HARD TIMES" FOR THE JUSO'S IF BENNETER PURSUES A CONFRONTATION COURSE, AND HE WARNED THAT JUSO'S WHO PURSUE TIES WITH COMMUNISTS CANNOT STAY IN THE PARTY.

7. BENNETER'S ELECTION THUS CONFRONTS THE SPD WITH A MAJOR CHALLENGE. JUSO'S HITHERTO HAVE BEEN A LEFTIST THORN IN THE PARTY'S SIDE, BUT THE BRANDT/SCHMIDT/WEHNER TEAM HAS HELD THEM IN BOUNDS. NOW, UNDER BENNETER, THE JUSO'S MAY LAUNCH A MAJOR DRIVE TO RADICALIZE THEIR PARTY AND THUS SEEK CONFLICT WITH ITS LEADERSHIP. THE SPD KNOWS THAT THE CDU/CSU WILL POUNCE ON ANY SUCH JUSO MOVES -- E.G., COOPERATION IN COMMUNIST-LED DEMONSTRATIONS, OR ESPOUSAL OF BENNETER'S STAMOKAP DOCTRINES -- AND THAT IT CAN ILL AFFORD ANOTHER SELF-INFLICTED WOUND. YET THE PARTY MUST AT LEAST SEEK A MODUS VIVENDI WITH ITS ALWAYS OBSTREPEROUS, BUT NOW MORE ASSERTIVE YOUTH WING. THUS, IT MUST DECIDE WHERE TO DRAW THE LINE AND WHERE TO COMPROMISE. BAHR HAS MADE PLAIN THAT THE SPD WILL DRAW A FIRM LINE ON THE ISSUE OF TACTICAL ALLIANCES WITH COMMUNISTS. IN TURN, HE HAS HINTED THAT THE SPD MAY YIELD A BIT ON ITS RESTRICTIVE "CENSORSHIP" OF JUSO ACTIVITIES. THE PARTY HAS TWO ULTIMATE WEAPONS: CONTROL OF THE JUSO PURSE AND THREAT OF EXPULSION. USE OF EITHER COULD SPLIT THE JUSO'S AND CAUSE SERIOUS STRAIN WITHIN THE SPD ITSELF. THE SPD LEADERSHIP WOULD DO THIS ONLY AS A LAST RESORT, IN THE FACE OF GREAT PROVOCATION -- A PROVOCATION WHICH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BONN 05056 02 OF 02 221718Z

IS NOT PRESENT, BUT IS NOW LURKING OVER THE HORIZON. IT WILL BE EXTREMELY INTERESTING TO SEE HOW THE SPD

COMES TO GRIPS WITH THE NEW JUSO CHALLENGE. SO FAR
WILLY BRANDT AND HELMUT SCHMIDT HAVE WITHHELD PUBLIC COMMENT
BUT IT IS CERTAIN THAT THEY, ALONG WITH WEHNER AND
OTHER SPD KEY POLITICIANS, ARE SEIZED WITH THE PROBLEM.

8. THE EMBASSY WILL SUBMIT BY AIRGRAM FURTHER COMMENTS
ON THE JUSO CONGRESS.
STOESSEL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARTY UNITY, PARTY LINE, SOCIAL DEMOCRATS, PARTY MEETINGS, YOUTH GROUPS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BONN05056
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770098-0257
Format: TEL
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770337/aaaabfkz.tel
Line Count: 232
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8dfa34b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3040183
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JUSO CONGRESS GIVES SPD NO CAUSE FOR JOY BEGIN SUMMARY: THE ANNUAL JUSO CONGRESS CREATED SERIOUS PROBLEMS FOR BOTH THE JUSO'S AND THE SPD. IT ELEC
TAGS: PINT, GE, SPD, JUSO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8dfa34b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009